

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fissure repair device, comprising:  
a common element folded into a plurality of portions, the common element having a first end region and a second end region separated by a middle region, the first end region and middle region further separated by a first intermediate region, the second end region and middle region further separated by a second intermediate region, the device including a first portion, a second portion, and a link portion extending between the first and second portions, and a variable link between the first portion and second portion, in which the first and second portions are portions of a common element, one of the first or second portion[[s]] being formed by one or both end portions regions of the element, the first portion being linked to the second portion by one or more link portions; the one or more link portion[[s]] being portions of the common element formed by the first and second intermediate regions; and  
a variable link between the first portion and second portion.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to~~ of claim 1, ~~wherein or claim 2 in which~~ the first portion includes a first part, second part, and third part, the first portion being provided with one or more holes in the second part thereof, the first portion being provided in the first and third parts thereof with one or more further sets of holes.
4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to~~ of claim 3, ~~wherein at least one of in which~~ the first part and[[or]] third part [[are]] is folded against the second part, the holes in the ~~at least one of the~~ first and third parts align with holes in the second part.
5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device of according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in which the second portion~~ each of the first and second end portions is provided with one or more areas of reinforcement ~~on each of the end portions of the element.~~

6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to of claim [6]] 1, wherein in which the link portion(s) are made of, portion includes one or more materials and/or incorporate one or more materials and/or be coated with one or more materials which promote tissue in growth and/or the supply of blood.~~
8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to of claim 1, wherein 6 or claim 7 in which a first fold is provided between a first second portion forming part the middle region and the first link portion intermediate region, a second fold is provided and/or between the second link portion middle region and the second second portion forming part intermediate region, a third fold is provided between the first link portion intermediate region and the first portion and/or end region, and a fourth fold is provided between the first portion second intermediate region and the second link portion end region, a fold is provided between a first part of the first portion and a second part of the first portion and/or between a third part of the first portion and a second part of the first portion.~~
9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to any of claims 6 to 8 in which of claim 1, wherein, when folded, the first link portion intermediate region contacts the second link portion intermediate region and the first and second link portions intermediate regions are substantially parallel to one another.~~
10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to of claim 9, wherein in which the first and/or second link portions are intermediate region is at 90° +/- 5° to the at least one of the first portion end region and[/or]] second portion the middle region.~~
11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] ~~The device according to any of claims 6 to 10 in which claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and[/or]] second link portions intermediate regions contact the sides a side of the fissure.~~

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of~~ according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in ~~which~~ the first portion and second portion define the verticals of an H shape, particularly when considered in plan view in an intervertebral disc space, and the link portion[[s]] defines the cross bar of an H shape.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of~~ according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in ~~which~~ at least two variable links are provided, ~~one a first variable link~~ provided between ~~one the first end region of the first portion~~ and the second portion and ~~the other is a~~ second variable link provided between the ~~other second end region of the first portion~~ and the second portion.
14. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of~~ according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in ~~which~~ a variable link is used to one or more of vary the distance between one end region of the first portion and ~~the same end of~~ the second portion, ~~and/or to~~ vary the tension between one region end of the first portion and the ~~same end of the~~ second portion, ~~and/or to~~ pull the first portion against the inside of the annulus or a part thereof, and ~~and/or to~~ pull the second portion against the outside of the annulus.
15. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of~~ according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in ~~which~~ a receiving space for the annulus to one side of the fissure is provided between [[a]] first end region of the first portion and ~~a first end of~~ the second portion, and a receiving space for the annulus to the other side of the fissure is provided between [[a]] the second end region of the first portion and ~~second end of~~ the second portion.
16. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of~~ according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in ~~which~~ the link portion ~~or portions pass~~ passes through the fissure, from the inside the annulus to the outside thereof and the link portion ~~or portions keep~~ keeps the sides of the fissure apart.

17. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The fissure repair device of claim 1, wherein the device including a first portion, a second portion and a variable link between the first portion and second portion, in which the first and second portions are portions of a common element, the first portion being linked to the second portion by one or more link portions, the one or more link portions being portions of the common element, the second portion being formed by both end portions of the element includes a plurality of inclined barbs to provide anchoring to the annulus.
18. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device according to of claim 17 in which 1, wherein the first portion end region is in the form of a first second portion forming part, first link portion, first portion, second link portion and second second portion forming part, with this being the sequence from one end to the other of the element provided with a reduced height neck part and the second end region is provided with an aperture.
19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device according to of claim 17 or claim 18 in which one of the second portion forming parts and/or the link portion connected to it, 1, wherein the first intermediate region is provided with a reduced height part and/or neck part and the other of the second portion forming parts and/or the link portion connected to it, intermediate region is provided with an aperture.
20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device according to of claim 19, wherein in which the second portion forming part first intermediate region provided with the reduce height part and/or neck part is passed through the hole aperture in the other second portion forming part intermediate region.
21. (Original) A method of repairing a fissure in a material, the method including the steps of:
  - providing a fissure repair device, the device including a first portion, a second portion and a variable link;
  - deploying the first portion of the device inside the fissure;

deploying the second portion of the device outside the fissure;  
connecting the first portion to the second portion at one or more locations using the variable link, the variable link passing through the material.

22. (New) The device of claim 8, wherein a further fold is provided at least one of between a first part of the first end region and a second part of the first end region and between a third part of the first end region and a second part of the first end region.
23. (New) The device of claim 10, wherein the second intermediate region is at  $90^{\circ} \pm 5^{\circ}$  to at least one of the second end region and the middle region.
24. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein the first end region provided with the reduced height neck part is passed through the aperture in the second end region.